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The Law Library

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INFORMATION BULLETIN

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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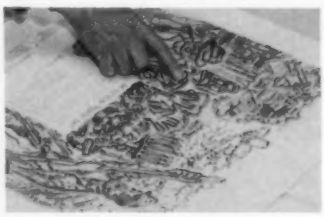

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On the Cover: Law Library scholar-in-residence Cristian Ionescu (left) and senior legal specialist Anton Wekerle discuss the law in a Romanian text. *Photo by Reid Baker*

Cover Story: The Law Library carries out many missions. For example, as the foreign-law research body for Congress and the federal government, it interprets the laws of the world. This past year it has taken several new directions. 141

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Seminar in Budapest Attracts International Interest

A conference that drew wide attention from the international press was recently cosponsored by the Library's Congressional Research Service in Budapest.

Called "The Parliament's Responsibility for Economic Development," the March 22–24 conference, in addition to attracting journalists in general, in particular was of interest to reporters of Eastern and Central European countries. Many members of the parliamentary delegations, besides reporting on the conference proceedings, were themselves interviewed about economic issues relevant to a specific country.

While there is no single or simple solution to the problems of political and economic transition, the open debate at the conference brought to light the trade-offs involved and the work confronting the parliamentarians in establishing among their constituencies a consensus on which transformation programs could be anchored.

Other cosponsors were the Hungarian Parliament, the International Foundation for the Survival and Development of Humanity and the U.S. Congress Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Held in the Hungarian Parliament, the conference drew participants who were the leaders and the economic chairmen of all the parliaments of Europe in transition: Hungary, the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Romania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Poland, the Soviet Union and the Bundestag of Germany.

Joining with the parliamentary delegations were the major institutions from outside the region that will influence successful economic transition: the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The private sector was represented by industrial leaders, international bankers and leading economists.

One of the "round table" discussions held in the Hungarian Parliament in Budapest, March 22–24.

Representing the Congressional Research Service were John P. Hardt, senior specialist in Soviet economics and associate director of CRS; Francis T. Miko, specialist in international relations; Nancy Davenport, assistant director for special programs; and Jean Boone, consultant to CRS. This wide range of sponsorship and perspectives set the stage for incisive comments on the parliament's role and responsibility in economic development.

Participants examined both the substantive economic issues facing the transforming countries and the parliamentary processes that might be used to establish economic programs based on broad social consensus as well as to develop effective implementing legislation.

The Congressional Research Service prepared the framework paper on which the conference was organized. It focused on specific critical decisions that the parliaments must make. Issues were posed as "round table" discussions for the parliamentarians and experts to talk over after major presentations on the following:

☐ **Democratization and Market Economies**—What economic, legal and political institutions need to be in place to support and manage a market system? How much parliamentary involvement in economic policymaking is appropriate? What is the role of local government in "marketization"? How can the diverse political and economic requirements of each country be accommodated in negotiating agreements with the international organizations that will effectively foster transformation?

☐ **Economic Programs for Transition to a Market Economy**—Must the economic programs of transforming countries provide simultaneously for monetary stabilization, maintenance of employment, economic growth and a broad social safety net? If choices are necessary, what criteria should be used?

☐ **Effective Integration into the World Economy**—What are the major constraints to effective integration of the transforming coun-

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Budapest *(Cont. from p. 139)*

tries? What conditions need to exist for the removal of constraints? Are new mechanisms required to manage coordination, either within existing bodies or as newly created bodies? How might regional arrangements promote both integration into the world economy and domestic transformation? What are the prospects for capital flows into the regions from the developed West? What impact will new capital have for the implementation of economic programs in the East and Central European countries?

☐ **Privatization**—In the transition from state ownership and control to private ownership and control, can criteria of efficiency and equity both be met? Should some amount of state control be retained over different types of property? How will privatization affect foreign investment and domestic competition?

☐ **Monetary Stabilization and Fiscal Policy**—What functions should be carried out by new central and commercial banks? Do the Western central banks offer a useful model for the transforming countries? Is early, full convertibility an attainable requirement for transformation?

☐ **Parliamentary Responsibilities and Challenges**—How does a member balance the three major responsibilities of a legislator: to legislate, educate and advocate? How much oversight of enacted legislation is enough? How does a parliament exercise oversight? How does an elected representative of the people help prepare them for the costs of entering into international arrangements?

Major addresses at the conference included: Hungarian President Arpad Goncz on "Separating Legislative, Executive and Judicial Powers"; Speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly Gyorgy Szabad on "The Parliament's Role in the Process of Establishing Market-Oriented and Competitive Economies"; Vice President of the German Bundestag Helmuth Becker on "Freedom and Prosperity—Are They Compatible"; and Political State Secretary, member of Parliament and leader of the Hungarian Parliamentary Delegation Tamas Szabo on "The Hungarian Government's Four-Year Program for Transition to a Market Economy."

Other addresses were: Hungarian Minister for International Economic Relations Bela Kadar on "Effective Integration into the World Economy and the Role of International Institutions"; U.S. Senator and CSCE Cochairman Dennis DeConcini on "The Helsinki Process and the Role of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in Economies in Transition"; Hungarian Minister and President of the National Committee for Technological Development Erno Pungor on "Technological Innovation—Its Importance in Economic Transformation and Modernization."

Executive Vice President of Bankers Trust Co. George Vojta spoke on "Preconditions for Economic Transition in Central and Eastern Europe"; and former U.S. Senator and Vice Chairman of the International Foundation Charles McC. Mathias discussed "Creation of a Legislative Agenda: Identification and Prioritization of Legislative Issues Involved in Economic Transformation."

The proceedings of the conference will be published by the CSCE later this spring and will be available from the U.S. Government Printing Office. —*Nancy Davenport*

LC in the News

☐ The Library's collections are frequently cited in newspaper and magazine articles. Recently, however, the Jefferson Building itself has been a topic.

To wit, in *Trump's* March 1991 issue (a magazine of the Trump Shuttle) a photo of the dome of the Main Reading Room (scheduled to reopen this June) appears with a description of the building, an Italian Renaissance structure "conceived as an ornament to knowledge and learning."

And the March 22 *Washington Post Weekend* section, in "Strange but True Tales for Tourists, said, "Capitol Hill is the site of . . . strange sights, and not all of them are legislative. . . . The ornate Library has its own claim to fame . . . as well as its own oddities, such as the 33 heads mounted above the lower windows on the outside walls. The heads are said to represent the 33 'major races of the world,' as identified by a Smithsonian curator."

But according to the article, "the curator's breakdown of races is a bit surprising, though, with a 'blonde European' and 'brunette European' considered separate races." (A story on these sculptures will appear in a future *Bulletin.*)

☐ In "The Kidney That Got Away (*Washington Post,* April 2), the tale of a man who was drugged, his kidney removed and later sold, is apocryphal.

Peter Bartis of LC's American Folklife Center, among other folklorists, attributed the story to "the anxieties of modern existence."

"If you look at what's going on in the news today," Dr. Bartis said, "there's a lot about the fringes of medical discovery. . . . There are articles about the wealthy getting the best health care and the poor not, about people in prison offering to donate their organs for money, about the shortages of organ donors. It's probably a manifestation of all the anxiety that the average person may harbor, but at a subconscious level."

The Law Library:
Window to the World's Laws

by Natalie Gawdiak

A newspaper cartoon on the office door of Law Librarian M. Kathleen Price tells part of the story: two characters, Frank & Ernest, are standing in front of huge, packed rows of books in a law library and one is saying to the other, "It's frightening when you think that we started out with just 10 commandments!"

While the Law Library—the world's largest—cannot boast of any holdings etched on stone tablets, its collections include everything from illustrated 13th century law books on vellum bound in wood to modern laws on its video display terminals, which can tap data bases of both foreign and domestic law.

Last year, the Law Library celebrated the arrival of its two millionth book. There are so many volumes, they are kept in closed stacks, on the world's largest installation of movable, compact shelving.

Despite the size of its collection, however, the Law Library is in some ways the Library's best-kept secret. Many people assume that "the Law Library" is its Reading Room in the Madison Building. The Law Library's principal features, however, are out of sight, like the submerged bulk of an iceberg, below (and behind) the Reading Room.

Many Missions: *Congress.* Roughly half the Law Library collection is *foreign* law, and the primary job that most of the lawyers, librarians and support staff perform here is to keep Congress supplied with what it needs to know about developments in foreign law (including European Economic Community law, customary law and religious-based systems) and international law.

American legal research, like most subjects, is handled by the Library's Congressional Research Service (CRS), the major research arm for Congress. However, Law Library reference specialists also respond to congressional questions on American law.

The Law Library's responses to questions from Congress and other branches of the federal government for analysis of foreign law are sometimes used as bases for U.S. legislation or for background in a hearing on an issue of congressional scrutiny. Some recent queries from Congress covered multinational surveys of abortion laws, drunk driving legislation, gun control law and campaign finance regulations abroad.

The Law Library is the custodian of most of the law items in LC. Thus, although CRS has some law holdings of its own, it relies on the Law Library's collections. And, while CRS works only for Congress, the Law Library also serves the public.

Among the special services the Law Library provides Congress is reference service during the entire time either chamber is in session. This translates into some long nights for the Reading Room reference staff.

Public Service. "Where's the Law Library?" The Law Librarian's secretarial staffers get this same question from citizens who wander by mistake into the administrative offices. Rather than say, "You're standing in it!" Charlene Patton, Beatrice Stackhouse and Antonia Williams politely direct the person down the hall to the room many patrons equate with "The Law Library."

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Photos by Reid Baker

Law Librarian M. Kathleen Price accepts a copy of an important foreign law catalog from National Diet Librarian Masakatsu Katogi of Japan.

Robert Gee answers a question, while David Rabasca (center) discusses a point with CRS's Charles Doyle, former acting Law Librarian.

World Law Bulletin, a current foreign law digest for Congress, is discussed by Committee Chair Stephen Clarke and Editors Constance Johnson and Wendy Zeldin.

It's Greek to Them, but That's OK

The identity of the Old World explorer who first discovered the New World is debatable—some say it was Columbus; others say it was the Vikings or an Irish monk—but it was the "New World" staff in the Law Library and LC's Information Technology Services (ITS) who recently rediscovered the Old World.

The achievement of Law Library staffers Theresa Papademetriou (sitting) and Keith Stiverson (center), and Information Technology Services' Gloria Lancaster may not rival that of the early explorers, but there was a definite surge of the excitement of discovery as they witnessed the Library's first on-line hookup with a Greek legal data service in Athens.

While researchers in American law can consult extensive on-line files, others often depend on the mail from abroad to bring them foreign legal documents and new amendments to codes. The waiting period can be very long.

Theresa Papademetriou, a lawyer who specializes in Greek and Cypriot law, heard about HELLASLEX, a Greek legal data base, while visiting her homeland last summer. She contacted the HELLASLEX offices in Athens, took a training course in searching the data base and brought back the information she had found to the Law Library.

While this discovery was exciting, much hard work remained to be done to make the actual link-up between the Law Library and Greece a reality. With the support of Gloria Lancaster of Information Technology Services and Keith Ann Stiverson, special assistant to the Law Librarian (and the Law Library's automation liaison), Ms. Papademetriou faxed Greece for information to help identify the appropriate hardware and software needed. Trial and error ensued.

Ms. Stiverson described the "real hero in all of this" as Petros Alevizos, an executive at the Athens-based HELLASLEX, who, she noted, "was always patient and helpful. During the first few weeks we constantly faxed questions to him and always got a prompt reply, usually within a few hours."

The reward for these "automation explorers" finally came one afternoon when they saw the first message in Greek coming up on a terminal in ITS. The Law Library will soon have the equipment necessary for Ms. Papademetriou to have fingertip access to on-line Greek legal data base searching.

The Law Library's other foreign legal specialists have been asked to locate similar data bases in their jurisdictions to expedite the department's foreign legal research. Eventually, a "World Law Index" could be established to improve service in foreign law research for Congress and the nation.

—*Jean E. Tucker and Natalie Gawdiak*

Law Library *(Cont. from p. 141)*

For those who need special legal research, the Reading Room, with its 75,000 volumes, is the best place to start. Among its facilities is a microfiche reading room, a rare book room and computer and card catalogs.

In recent years, the Law Library has been referring readers who call in or write from other U.S. cities to libraries where they can be helped closer to their homes. (This principle of librarianship also saves the taxpayer money.) Still, many of the readers in the Reading Room are local attorneys and students from nearby law schools.

An administrative debate has continued at least since 1895 about whether students should be admitted into the Reading Room. As former Law Librarian Carleton Kenyon (1971–1989) pointed out, "One can never tell about law students—they may someday return here as members of the House or Senate."

In addition to the operation of the Reading Room (open to readers above high school age), the Law Library's other public services include legal reference service, foreign legal bibliographic assistance and a limited publications program.

As with collections elsewhere in the Library of Congress, the law holdings for a country may be more extensive than some nations' indigenous collections. But these books, without someone who can read, translate and interpret them, would help no one. Thus the Law Library needs an international staff, which may be likened to a mini-United Nations. Ms. Price quipped, "Now I know how U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar feels!"

Profiles in Diversity. The foreign legal specialists and reference staffers are native to more than a score of countries, including Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Bulgaria, Burma, China, Czechoslo-

vakia, Greece, India, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Korea, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Paraguay, Poland, the Soviet Union (Lithuania), Sweden, Syria, Turkey, Vietnam and Zambia.

In addition to the native languages spoken in these countries, the staff has a working knowledge of Latin, classical Greek, Portuguese, several Slavic languages and Swahili.

Before coming to the Law Library, several legal specialists were judges, law professors or in the diplomatic corps of their native countries. Some hold degrees in law as well as librarianship. Others have U.S.-state bar memberships and are adjunct law professors at American institutions.

All in a Day's Work. All things seem at some time to be touched by the "long arm of the law," which, in the case of the Law Library's assignments, often means looking back to uncover what the law once was.

Other branches of the government also benefit from the Law Library's foreign law research. Legal specialists are sometimes required to be expert witnesses for the federal government in court. Often, their written work has a significant effect on the outcome of those cases. The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and the Defense Department, for instance, frequently call on the Law Library to provide expert legal research.

The Law Library's work for INS is particularly important because it affects lives personally in matters of succession, legitimation, marriage and divorce, among others. The legal specialists assist regional INS offices in researching laws of other nations using foreign-language sources. As legal codes change, the different requirements must be traced to see if the documents being examined properly attest to the family relationships in question.

Recently the Law Library came to the rescue of an adoptive couple. Congress requested information for

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On average, the Law Library receives 45,000 issues of foreign official gazettes annually; their receipt is handled primarily by Betty York (not shown), official gazette technician, and by technician James Bradford. Many are received by airmail to expedite receipt of this basic legal research resource.

Law Library Answers Them All

☐ What are the legal provisions on the peaceful uses of nuclear power in the treaty signed between Iraq and Brazil?

☐ What are the customary laws governing Sikh divorce?

☐ Are there prohibitions against importing goods produced by prison labor abroad?

☐ How is death defined and what are the laws governing euthanasia in the Netherlands?

☐ What were the bicycle safety laws of Imperial Russia?

☐ How are political campaign contributions regulated in Thailand?

☐ How are gymnastic instructors licensed in Brazil?

☐ Do you have an illustration showing a British courtroom in the 17th century?

☐ What is the legal definition of "catsup" under the regulations of the European Economic Community?

Rachel Montgomery, library technician, sorts foreign-language law books for reshelving on the world's most extensive mobile bookshelving system.

Establishing East-West Relations

"What . . . can be more edifying than . . . Liberty and Learning, each leaning on the other for their mutual and surest support?"

—James Madison

For the first time, the Law Library is hosting a NATO scholar. NATO, in turn, has just opened its foreign exchange scholarship program to candidates from East European countries.

Cristian Ionescu, a Romanian scholar and law counselor at the Romanian Ministry of Justice, graduated from the Faculty of Law of the University of Bucharest in 1972 and completed a doctorate in law from the same institution in 1987. NATO approved his proposal to research "The Role of the Parliament in the Presidential Political Systems Under the Principle of the Separation of Powers" at the Law Library for several months.

Dr. Ionescu divides his time between learning about American law from Robert Nay, acting chief of the American-British Law Division, and working with Senior Legal Specialist Anton Wekerle. Dr. Wekerle, who handles research on 21 African nations plus Hungary and Romania, is also the assistant chief of the Near Eastern and African Law Division.

According to Dr. Wekerle, his new colleague has an "amazing" knowledge of current Romanian legislation—"almost down to the day and minute a law was passed." In their discussions, the two men benefit from their mutual interest and training in the fields of constitutional law and political science.

Dr. Ionescu can discuss the Romanian holdings with Dr. Wekerle in any of several languages these two scholars know.

Law Library *(Cont. from p. 143)*

a case in which a naturalized American couple wanted to adopt a child from their native country. The legitimacy of the adoption had to be ascertained before the soon-to-expire visa of the child could be validated. The Law Library's staff sorted out the jurisdictional complications in the case, advised that the adoption was indeed valid. Their report saved the child from enduring further delay in reaching the United States and its new parents.

The World's Largest Bookshelf. The vast below-ground stack area where most of these sources are kept covers 2 acres, divided into four quadrants.

Although the mobile shelving is not always cooperative, law Stack Services Section Head George Fullen notes that "with conventional shelving, we would have needed 80 percent more shelf space."

Finding space at LC and elsewhere on Capitol Hill is always a problem. Law Library space planning is usually tackled by Collection Services Officer Rose Marie Clemandot and Executive Officer LaVerne "Verne" Mullin. Ms. Clemandot estimates that "by 1996 our shelving will be at capacity, which in library terms, means 80 percent full." But contingency planning might "get us up to the year 2000," Mr. Mullin adds. What happens then? They laugh: "We both retire!"

Place names both exotic and familiar line the Law Library's 9-foot-high shelves: Aargau, Acre, Afghanistan, Africa General to Zug, Zuid-Holland, Zulia and Zurich, with more than 500 names in between. In addition to collections for virtually all the world's geographic and political jurisdictions, there are collections such as "Law General," "Ancient Law," "Roman Law," "Canon Law" and "American and British Trials."

More Stack Facts. The Law Library stack area takes up half the subbasement level of the James Madison Memorial Building. Other details:

☐ If measured linearly, the Law Library's shelving would stretch for 60 miles.

☐ Compact, motorized shelves operate by pushing two buttons simultaneously; the shelving is activated 600 to 800 times daily.

☐ There are 991 movable ranges of 9-foot-high shelves and 208 ranges of stationary shelving.

☐ On average, 40 repair calls per month are made for breakdowns. The backup "system" is a hand crank, much like a crowbar.

Some of the World's Greatest Rare Treasures. In a corner of the Reading Room is the Law Library's climate-controlled Rare Book Room of 25,000 books and manuscripts. Rare book librarian Thomas D. Burney oversees these treasures and provides reference on them.

Readers often ask how this immense collection came to be. With the exception of some significant donations, such as from The Friends of the Law Library of Congress (formed in 1934), and a few exchanges with other major U.S. libraries, most of the rare collection was built by single or collective purchases. Many significant additions were made by former Law Librarian John T. Vance Jr. (1924–1943), when European coffers were low and some nations regarded the sale of their rare law books as a good source of income.

In addition to expected strengths in rare Americana—such as a strong collection of early session laws—the Law Library has one of the most extensive U.S. congressional collections outside those maintained by the House and Senate themselves. Some noteworthy items are the Journals of the Continental Congress (1774–1789) and a copy of the First Acts of the First Congress with George Washington's signature.

American Indian holdings, many in the vernacular, are especially sig-

LC's Oldest Department Was Established 1832

The reason Congress established a library for itself in the first place was to eliminate the need for members to have at hand their personal law book collection.

When they created a congressional library in 1800, however, the members did not confine its scope to law. By 1832 the crush of patrons using the Library—then in the Capitol—motivated Congress to pass an act (4 Stat. 579), signed into law by President Andrew Jackson on July 14, 1832, to establish an "apartment near to . . . the library of Congress . . . now kept, for the purpose of a law library; to remove the law books, now in the library, into such apartment."

Originally the Law Library was under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, which was also in the Capitol. These administrative ties ended in 1935 with the completion of the Supreme Court's building (with its own library), but the Law Library continued to serve the Supreme Court in numerous ways as it does today. This includes foreign law research, the loan of many materials not in the Court's collection and access to LC data bases.

The story of the Law Library began in a small room in the Capitol in 1832; it was later moved. This is a view from what is believed to be the earliest extant photo of the Law Library (ca. 1895) when the Reading Room was located in what is now the Capitol's Old Senate Chamber.

nificant for the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Creek Nations, and include the rare Constitution of the State of Sequoyah, a final attempt by the Nations to have the Indian Territory admitted to the Union as a separate Indian state.

Among the Law Library's British holdings are 300 editions of Blackstone (an 18th century English jurist and professor who wrote expositions about the development of common law, which had an enormous influence on American law). There is also an excellent collection of yearbooks (reports of pleadings in cases decided in English courts from the reign of Edward I (1272–1307) to that of Henry VIII (1509–47) and giving a first-hand look at the procedural intricacies of those times).

In addition to its American and British rare material, the Law Library has significant collections in Roman law, canon law, feudal law, the Holy Roman Empire, medieval law and early national laws of Western Europe, including such genres as coutumes (or customary law) and

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Few law books today are bound in rose velvet and sequins as the item (center) from Catherine the Great's library, and few books on military law have handpainted illustrations as these items from the Imperial Russian collection.

Reference librarian Gary Greenfield (left) assists a reader in getting legal materials from the Reading Room, one of LC's busiest.

Law Library *(Cont. from p. 145)*

consilia. Few collections rival the Law Library's incunabula holdings.

The "crown jewel" of the Law Library's many treasures is the *Grande Coustumier de Normandie*, a beautiful 15th century manuscript bound in green velvet and containing seven handpainted, gilded illuminations. Among the most valuable items in the entire Library of Congress, this volume is an important resource not only for French customary law but also of the development of English common law.

The Law Library has come a long way since 1832, when Congress ordered that law books be placed in a small room in a corner of the Capitol Building to provide it with better access to the collection.

Ms. Gawdiak is the Law Library's department editor.

LC Announces Fellowship Program

A new fellowship program for junior or senior undergraduates, and graduate-level students enrolled in a continuing academic program has been initiated by the Library.

Librarian James H. Billington, who announced the Junior Fellows Program, said this new privately funded activity has several objectives: "We want to make the Library's collections—many of which are unique in the world—better known throughout the nation; help the Library inventory, chronicle and make available previously unexplored materials; and also expose bright young Americans to the challenging career opportunities available at the Library."

The two- to six-month fellowships, which will pay a stipend of $1,200 a month, are available throughout the year according to the schedules of the students. Academic credit for the fellowship work is at the discretion of the educational institution.

Applications for fall 1991 fellowships should be received by June 30.

Applicants should send an Application for Federal Employment (SF-171) or a resume, a transcript and a cover letter indicating their language capabilities and the subject areas in which they are interested (see below) to: Human Resources—Special Programs, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

The Special Programs Office will forward applications to appropriate LC divisions, which will arrange telephone or face-to-face interviews with students who submit the most effective applications.

The subject areas for the fellowship program include American history and literature, geography and cartography, graphic arts, information science, librarianship, manuscripts, motion pictures, music, photography, rare books and sound recordings.

Applicants' institutions should submit two letters: (1) to identify the official status of the student, to give approval for the fellowship and to state that the fellowship at the Library will be a direct extension of the student's educational program; and (2) to provide a personal recommendation by an appropriate professor attesting to the student's reliability and the feasibility of his/her carrying out the project.

For more information, contact Denise Banks, Special Programs Office, Library of Congress, Washington DC 20540, or call (202) 707-2941. Potential fellows may also contact the divisions in which they are interested in working: Manuscript Division, Assistant Chief David Wigdor (202) 707-5383; Geography and Map Division, Assistant Chief Ralph Ehrenberg (202) 707-8530; Music Division, Chief James W. Pruett or Assistant Chief John W. Newsom (202) 707-5503; Prints and Photographs Division, Chief Stephen E. Ostrow (202) 707-5836; Rare Book and Special Collections, Chief Larry Sullivan (202) 707-5434; Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound, Chief Robert Saudek, (202) 707-5840.

The Library During Wartime:
World War I

This series on LC's roles during America's wars would not be complete without mention of the First World War. Now, thanks to a letter to the Information Bulletin *from Arthur P. Young, dean of libraries at the University of South Carolina, we have learned of the efforts of Librarian Herbert Putnam, midway in his tenure, as general director for the American Library Association's Library War Service Program from 1917 to 1919, well past the armistice.*

In *Books for Sammies: The American Library Association and World War I,* Young recounts that the ALA Executive Board instructed the War Service Committee to provide books for U.S. troops and to seek funding in the association's name.

Like the British "Tommies" and the German "Jerries," the American troops were dubbed "Sammies," not, as might be assumed, from a relationship to Uncle Sam, but (a page in the 1918 *Stars and Stripes* assures us) from the slang equivalent of what the French cordially had dubbed the U.S. troops: *nos amis* (our friends).

To Herbert Putnam, as director of the program, came new chores. The war had not only depleted his LC staff, but had also imposed additional duties.

As Young recounts, "An exhibit room in the . . . Maps and Charts Division served as the home of the Library War Service. Every phase of the war work was coordinated from this office. Cramped quarters, a hectic schedule and long hours were endured by every member of the staff."

Indeed, according to *The Library of Congress: The Story Up to Now,* "every appropriate resource of the Library, bibliographic and otherwise, that could legally be applied was freely accorded, together with, of course, the volunteer aid of numerous members of the staff."

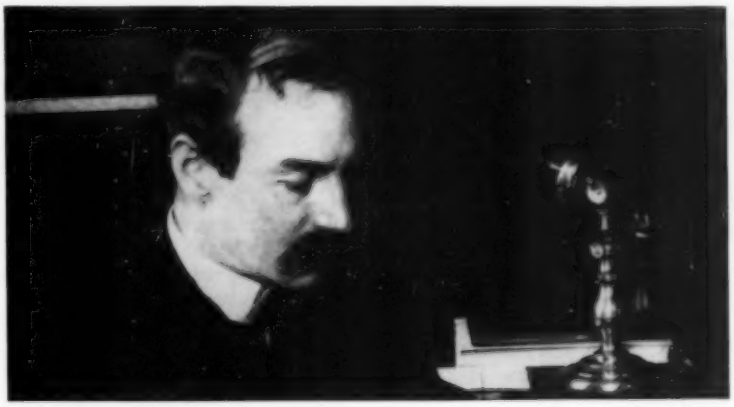
Putnam said in his 1918 *Report of the Librarian of Congress* that "the war, while impairing our forces, has heavily increased the demands upon us. Great numbers of research workers (many of them new to the task), engaged in problems new to our Government, are taxing our reference service heavily; many new government bureaus, whose organization, location and personnel are constantly changing, are heavily burdening our circulation and delivery services.

"The demand for printed matter has also shifted in a considerable measure from the well-known book, ready in place on the shelf, and available in a few minutes, to the book still in process of preparation for the shelf and available only after special search, to the book not yet received or the book not published, not available at all, but still more time-consuming. The demand is for the book or article of the moment."

In 1919, Putnam's *Report* observed that "no one could have foreseen, six years ago, the enormous quantity of printed matter on Europe that has come from the press since 1914 and that will continue to be issued for many years to come . . . [or] that Russia would occupy so much more space on library shelves. Moreover, entirely new subjects spring into existence with the progress of discovery, invention and evolution. Ten years ago, the literatures of aviation, submarine warfare, radioactivity, to name but a few striking examples, were inconsiderable compared with the present; the literature of Bolshevism was unheard of."

The LC Music Division, as early as 1917, had already noted the dearth in its current collections, due to the "marooned German orders of 1914–15." In 1918, LC published its popular *Check List of the Literature and Other Material in the Library of Congress,* calling it the "most extensive list of war literature undertaken in the United States" at the time, and by 1919 the Librarian's *Report* states that already "we have enough material accumulated to print a supplement as large as the original volume."

(Cont. on p. 148)



Herbert Putnam (in the Librarian's office) also served as director for ALA's Library War Service.

World War I *(Cont. from p. 147)*

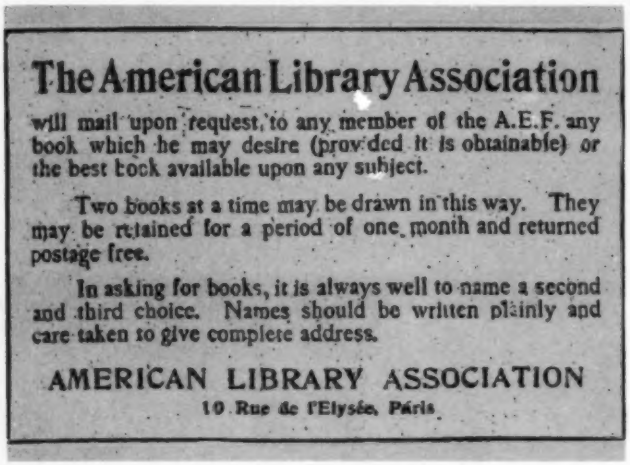
Joseph F. Daniels, librarian at the Riverside Public Library in California, had high praise for the checklist in a November 1918 letter, adding that: "We take the work of the Library of Congress so much for granted that we sometimes forget that . . . the excellent results which you achieve are due to skill and hard work."

"War materials," which had reached the Library by 1920 through gift, purchase, copyright deposit and transfers from the military and other government agencies, swelled the collections with their new subject areas. These included books, documents, maps, transcripts—from "warring and neutral countries"—dealing with "various racial, political, statistical and geographic considerations," as well as Army, camp and trench papers; artists' drawings; and broadsides and posters from both German and Allied forces, which would flesh out and document the day-to-day experiences of the troops.

The so-called Spanish influenza epidemic resulted in the closing of LC's public services from Oct. 4 to Oct. 30, 1918.

The ALA War Services Program entered uncharted waters, beginning with the tasks of initial mobilization and funding. These campaigns, often under the banner "Books for Sammies," achieved their most spectacular form with a giant pyramidal scaffold—on which donated books were to be placed—on the steps of the New York Public Library, complete with a 50-piece military band and library workers armed with megaphones soliciting donations.

By themselves, book donations would not fulfill the Sammies' needs and preferences. These were heavy in the area of fiction and light reading at the time of America's entry into the war, but by war's end veered more heavily toward the technical, with textbooks needed for troops with new career and vocational plans.



The American Library Association

will mail upon request, to any member of the A.E.F. any book which he may desire (provided it is obtainable) or the best book available upon any subject.

Two books at a time may be drawn in this way. They may be retained for a period of one month and returned postage free.

In asking for books, it is always well to name a second and third choice. Names should be written plainly and care taken to give complete address.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

10 Rue de l'Elysée, Paris

From the pages of the *Stars and Stripes* (Nov. 8, 1918), one of the ALA ads from the American Library in Paris, with streamlined directions for borrowing books by members by the American Expeditionary Forces. *Photo from LC newspaper microfilm collection*

With reading materials going to military posts all over the United States, the initial goal of 50 tons (about 75,000 volumes) to be shipped to France, which Gen. John J. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces, had approved, fell far short of demand. Tonnage allocations to such agencies as the YMCA and the American Red Cross were tapped to supplement book requirements. In the final accounting, Young relates, more than 2.5 million volumes were shipped to Europe, 1.3 million arriving before the armistice.

As director of the operation, Putnam had to contend with attitudes that impaired efficiency: women and minorities—particularly German-Americans—seem to have been automatically excluded from consideration for field operations (although many women helped direct these operations in the United States).

No less irksome was the stereotypical image of librarians among many in the military, as well as the standards of professionalism for librarianship upon which Putnam insisted. De facto censorship already existed in the military of books considered pacifist or pro-German. Young includes as an appendix to *Books for Sammies* a listing of these "books and pamphlets banned by the War Department" in World War I.

Postmaster General Albert S. Burleson also entered the scene at this point, since the law and postal regulations empowered him to withdraw from the mails any of the banned titles—or any others suspected as "seditious" by the War Department.

Initially, the military had relegated librarians overseas to serve under the unit chaplains. For assistance, the librarians had to rely on cooperating public and military service agencies, even though the agencies would have been unable to achieve the book-service mission. That Herbert Putnam successfully met and dealt with all these conflicts was a triumph. The camp and ALA librarians alike wore uniforms of green for winter and gray field cotton for summer, with embroidered armbands and "A. L. A." collar insignia. Women as well as men filled these ranks.

Putnam's success was mirrored in the remark of a regular Army sergeant on visiting his Kansas camp

(Cont. on p. 149)

'Shtetl' Lithograph Presented to Library

Painter and printmaker Marius Sznajderman recently presented the Library with a copy of his 1988 limited-edition lithograph *Elegy for My Shtetl* in honor of his uncle, the distinguished Yiddish poet and journalist S.L. Shneiderman.

The lithograph incorporates in its design the English and Yiddish text of the poem "Elegy for My Shtetl," which was written by Shneiderman in 1938.

"The poem was like a premonition of the imminent Nazi Holocaust that destroyed hundreds of *shtetlech* [small towns] on the banks of the Vistula, including my hometown, Kazimierz, where Jewish life had flourished for many generations, and [where] Yiddish was the spoken language," Mr. Shneiderman has said.

The lithograph shows a view of Kazimierz, which was part of Poland before the war, interpreted from pre-World War II photographs by the artist.

Accepting the lithograph on behalf of the Library were Julian Witherell, chief of the African and Middle Eastern Division; Stephen Ostrow, chief of the Prints and Photographs Division; Imre Jármy, assistant chief of the Exchange and Gift Division; and Michael Grunberger, head of the Hebraic Section.

Marius Sznajderman shows a detail of his lithograph to (from left) Suzanne Sznajderman, Julian Witherell, Stephen Ostrow, Imre Jármy and Michael Grunberger. *Photo by Reid Baker*

Also at the ceremony was Ben Shneiderman, son of S.L. Shneiderman, who recalled some of the experiences of his journalist parents at the onset of war in Europe. They had been working in Spain and France, and escaped from Europe on the last civilian boat leaving from Genoa in February 1940; they disembarked at Ellis Island on Washington's Birthday. All four of their parents subsequently perished in the Warsaw Ghetto.

"My father would be proud," noted Ben Shneiderman, "to have [the lithograph] here in this very American institution."

—*Helen Dalrymple*

World War I *(Cont. from p. 148)*

library: "I'll be hanged if this isn't organization!" Besides providing the men with books, the post library afforded officers and enlisted men alike a place to relax and write letters home.

Gen. Pershing authorized a motto: "These books come to us overseas from home/To read them is a privilege/ To restore them promptly unabused a duty."

"Bibliotherapy," the curative power of books, was much extolled. Books, suddenly, seemed to be everywhere—"in seaport bases . . . frontline trenches . . . dug-outs . . . car barns, as well as in substantial huts and tents far back from the firing line. . . . [These books are] well worn . . .," to quote part of a note to Putnam in 1918 from Raymond B. Fosdick of the Commission on Training Camp Activities.

For implementing the books-to-troops program, two other tactics were employed with great success: Gen. Pershing's "books by mail" campaign, begun in August 1918, and that of the so-called Burleson magazines (favorably immortalizing the postmaster general), by which the public could forward an issue of a magazine to a member of the armed forces by simply addressing it and affixing a 1-cent stamp.

Out of the ALA program came the American Library in Paris, which, through *Stars and Stripes* advertising, made books available through the mails to soldiers in the trenches and even allowed for a book's return *after disembarkation*, through the nearest YMCA. After the armistice, transferral of book collections from the Army and navy to military hospital libraries was also expedited with assistance from the American Library Association program.

Much of what the ALA program had begun during the war survived long afterward. The American Library in Paris, envisioned as a postwar citadel of American culture for teachers and researchers, and the Paris Library School that resulted, both continued until 1929.

Arthur Young's *Books for Sammies* is a welcome addition to Library of Congress lore as well as to the collections. Originally Young's Ph.D. thesis for the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, *Books for Sammies* was published as Beta Phi Mu chapbook No. 15 at Pittsburgh in 1981 and is replete with illustrations from the ALA archives. —*John J. Wayne*

Chilean Novelist Edwards Lectures at LC

Well-known Chilean novelist, journalist and diplomat Jorge Edwards lectured March 20 at the Library on "History as Fiction." The event was sponsored by the Embassy of Chile and the Hispanic Division.

Cole Blasier, chief of the division, welcomed Mr. Edwards, who studied political science at Princeton after receiving a law degree at the University of Chile. He is a descendant of a Welsh family that first settled in Chile in 1806.

Mr. Edwards, who has served as a diplomat in several countries, offered an acute historical perspective of Latin American literature.

One of his diplomatic achievements was the strengthening, and in some cases the establishment, of relations between Chile and East European countries during the Eduardo Frei government. President Salvador Allende sent him as chargé d'affaires to Havana to reopen diplomatic relations with Cuba in 1970.

A year later he was asked to leave because he had befriended several dissident writers. His experiences resulted in his best known and widely translated book, *Persona Non Grata* (1973). The work is a scathing critique of Castro's regime.

Since leaving diplomatic service, Mr. Edwards has spent most of his time teaching and writing novels, short stories, literary criticism and newspaper articles. He is a frequent visiting professor at American universities. Mr. Edwards' most recent book is a memoir about Pablo Neruda, *Adios Poeta* (1991), which was recently awarded the Comillas Prize in Spain.

Writer Jorge Edwards (at microphone) is flanked by Patricio Silva, cultural attaché at the Chilean Embassy; Georgette Dorn, specialist in Hispanic culture; and Cole Blasier, Hispanic Division chief. *Photo by Reid Baker*

Poet Laureate Closes LC's Literary Season

On Thursday, May 2, Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry Mark Strand will bring the Library's 1990–91 literary season to a close with a reading of his poems in the Montpelier Room. The reading will begin at 6 p.m.; a reception will follow. Tickets are not required.

Mark Strand, the fourth person to serve as Poet Laureate, is the author of seven collections of poetry, including *The Late Hour* (1978), *Selected Poems* (1980) and *The Continuous Life* (1990). Mr. Strand's works of translation include *The Owl's Insomnia* (1973), poems by Rafael Alberti; and *Travelling in the Family: The Selected Poems of Carlos Drummond de Andrade* (1986). He has also written two books on the subject of art and three children's books, and compiled three poetry anthologies.

Born on Prince Edward Island, Canada, Mark Strand came to the United States in 1938. He earned a bachelor's degree at Antioch College in 1957, a bachelor of fine arts degree at Yale University in 1959, and a master's degree at the University of Iowa in 1962. He has served on the faculties of many colleges and universities, including the University of Iowa, Mt. Holyoke College, the University of Washington, Columbia University, Yale University, Brooklyn College, Princeton University, Brandeis University, the University of Virginia, California State University at Fresno, the University of California at Irvine, Wesleyan University and Harvard University.

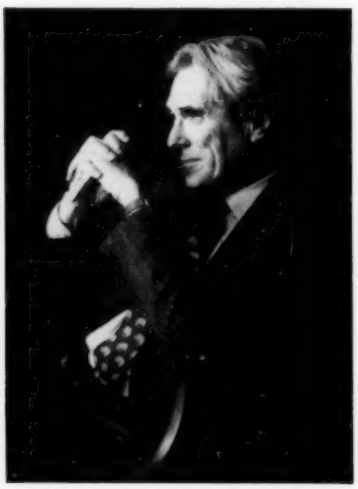


Photo by Mary Noble Ours

Anatomy of a Forgery Subject of New Book

The American Antiquarian Society has published *The Judgment of Experts: Essays and Documents about the Investigation of the Forgery of the Oath of a Freeman,* edited by James Gilreath, American history specialist in the Rare Book and Special Collections Division.

Though the *Oath of a Freeman* is known from contemporary accounts to be the first document printed in what is now the United States (1638-39), no copy is known to exist. In early April 1985, after some preliminary negotiations, a small broadside with the title *Oath of a Freeman* was couriered to the Rare Book and Special Collections Division from New York City. Agents representing the owner, whose identity remained secret, alleged this broadside was authentic, almost 350 years old, and offered to sell it to the Library for $1.5 million.

Staff of the division and the Conservation Office immediately began a series of investigations of the broadside that included historical, textual, photographic, x-ray fluorescence spectrometry and fourier transformspectrometry evidence. After several weeks of work, investigators could detect no evidence of forgery but also could not discover any proof that the document was actually as old as it purported to be.

Later events would reveal that the copy of the *Oath of a Freeman* was cleverly forged by Mark Hofmann of Utah, who had made a career of discovering manuscripts that were significant for the early history of the Mormon Church and its founder, Joseph Smith, and that later were proved to be forged. The Library of Congress turned down the offer to purchase the *Oath* because of its high price, lack of provenance and uncertain ownership; but Hofmann, confident that his agents would eventually make the sale, went on a spending spree totaling more than $1 million. Pressed for time, hounded by creditors, Hofmann killed two people in order to try to veil his maneuvering.

The authenticity of the *Oath of a Freeman* subsequently became a central part of the most massive criminal investigation in Utah, culminating in Hofmann's confession to the forgeries and murders, for which he is in prison for life.

In addition to documenting the analyses of the *Oath* done at the Library of Congress and the American Antiquarian Society, *The Judgment of Experts* contains the reports of various scientific, forensic, historical, and police work concerning the *Oath* at sites from Massachusetts to California.

Copies of *The Judgment of Experts* may be purchased from the American Antiquarian Society's book distributor, University Press of Virginia, Box 3608 University Station, Charlottesville, VA 22903-0608 for $32.50. Orders from individuals must be accompanied by remittance and $3 postage and handling for the first book ordered and 75 cents for each additional copy. Teachers and librarians receive a 10 percent discount when ordering directly from the University Press of Virginia. Virginia residents must add 4½ percent sales tax.

Center for the Book Goes on a Roll

More then 6,000 "I'm Going to Be a Lifetime Reader" lapel stickers were distributed to children and adults by the staff of the Library's Center for the Book at the 1991 White House Easter Egg Roll on April 1. "It was a wonderful family occasion," said Dr. Billington, who presented Vice President and Mrs. Quayle with "1991—The Year of the Lifetime Reader" T-shirts early in the day. Mrs. Bush is honorary chair of the Library's "1991—Year of the Lifetime Reader" national campaign.

The Center for the Book's Michael Thompson passes out "I'm Going to Be a Lifetime Reader" stickers to egg-rollers. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

Grateful for the Help: Grateful Dead drummer Mickey Hart, who has a keen interest in traditional music, visited the Library March 19. He assisted in the selection and digital mastering of rare field recordings of music and song from the rain forests of Central and South America. Joining him at the mixing console in LC's recording lab are American Folklife Center Director Alan Jabbour (left) and lead studio engineer Michael Donaldson of the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division. Mr. Hart plans to cooperate with the Library on a release of the archival recordings that date from the 1940s to the 1980s.

Info to Go:
A First-Person Account of Public Relations

Most people know the collections of the Library are extraordinary. But sometimes, it's the staff that really shines.

A recent case in point began with a frantic call I received from a producer at CBS News in New York. The network was putting together a short feature on songs of wartime.

Did the Library of Congress have anyone knowledgeable on the subject? Yes, I replied, we could set up some interviews with staff from the American Folklife Center and Performing Arts Library.

"Good," the producer breathlessly remarked, "now I also have a list of other things I need. I've got to find someone on film performing 'The Ballad of the Green Beret,' 'When Johnny Comes Marching Home' and 'Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition.'

"We can probably help you," I said.

"With which ones?" she asked.

"All of them," I said.

"Really? What did you say your name was again?"

Within a few minutes I was able to make good on my promise. The first request took care of itself in the hall as I walked toward the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Reading Room. I saw Robert Saudek, chief of the division, and film historian Pat Loughney. They remembered that Barry Sadler had performed "The Ballad of the Green Beret" on "The Ed Sullivan Show." "The rights to that program were recently transferred to a company in Los Angeles. Here's their name and phone number," said Dr. Loughney.

I then went to see film curator David Parker. Eric Kulberg, a private collector of old animated cartoons, happened to be visiting Mr. Parker.

"I've got 'When Johnny Comes Marching Home' on an old Max Fleischer cartoon with a bouncing ball to follow along," Mr. Kulberg offered.

That took care of request No. 2.

"And I remember seeing 'Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition' performed by the Freddy Martin Orchestra on an old piece of nitrate film," said Mr. Parker. "It must have been 1942 or 1943. For Paramount."

A quick check of a nearby card catalog and he had the exact reference. Three down.

A phone call to the American Folklife Center then put me in touch with Joe Hickerson, Jerry Parsons and Peter Bartis, all of whom had something to contribute. Dr. Bartis had organized a performance and symposium on songs of the Vietnam era last year. The program was videotaped and could be made available.

I was able to call back the producer within the hour and lay it all out before her. Who needs a computer with a staff like this?

—Craig D'Ooge

ATTENTION

The LC *Information Bulletin* is beginning a Letters column. Letters may be on *any* subject of interest that relates to a *Bulletin* article. Correspondence is welcome from all readers.

Letters will be edited for length and clarity and all must be signed. Names will be withheld on request. The column will first run in the Sept. 9 issue.

Send letters to Library of Congress Information Bulletin, Public Affairs Office, Room LM-105, 101 Independence Avenue S.E., Washington, DC 20540.

LC *Information Bulletin* Index Now Available

The Library of Congress Professional Association has published the 1990 *LCPA's Index to the Library of Congress Information Bulletin*. This useful key to *Information Bulletin* articles provides access by name and subject to the principal activities of the Library of Congress, as well as a range of national and international developments and issues of interest to libraries, information centers and publishers.

Included are areas such as copyright, preservation, automation, cataloging, authority control, and standards and reports of national and international conferences. The index also provides a handy means of identifying LC projects, products, symposia and exhibitions. For example: Do you recall what LC's ROLLUP project was, the participating agencies and the new name for the project? What is the geographic spread of the Library's services to the nation? The 1990 *Index to the LCIB* offers ready access to articles and maps that provide answers to these and other questions.

The 1990 *LCIB Index* is $10 per copy. *Special offers on back issues:* 1989 and 1990 Indexes—$15; 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988 Indexes—$7 per copy; set of seven Indexes, 1984–1990—$45.

Postage: All orders are sent book rate. Overseas orders: add $4. U.S. and Canada first-class postage: add $2. All orders must be prepaid; payment should be made to Library of Congress Professional Association. Foreign orders should be in U.S. currency, payable through a U.S. bank.

Mail orders to LCPA, Index Orders, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

PUBLICATIONS

USMARC Classification Format Available

The *USMARC Format for Classification Data* is now available. It joins the family of USMARC documents detailing standards for the representation and exchange of bibliographic, authority, holdings, and now classification data in machine-readable form.

The format specifications included in this document explain the content and structure of records for communicating classification data. Although developed to support the two major classification schemes used in the United States, the *Library of Congress Classification* and the *Dewey Decimal Classification*, other schemes can use the format and were considered in its development. Machine-readable classification data may be used in on-line public catalog retrieval systems, in systems to maintain and develop classification schedules, and in on-line systems for library classifiers.

USMARC Format for Classification Data was approved provisionally in June 1990 by the American Library Association's RTSD/LITA/RASD Machine-Readable Bibliographic Information Committee (MARBI), the Office for Subject Cataloging Policy of the Library of Congress and the Decimal Classification Editorial Policy Committee's Subcommittee on the MARC Format.

USMARC Format for Classification Data includes appendixes consisting of a glossary of classification terms and a section with full record examples. Appendix A, which illustrates full classification records, includes examples from the following classification schemes: *Library of Congress Classification, Dewey Decimal Classification, National Library of Medicine Classification* and *Universal Decimal Classification*.

USMARC Format for Classification Data sells for $30 (North America) and $35 (international) and is available from: Library of Congress, Cataloging Distribution Service, Customer Services Section, Washington, DC, 20541 (Telephone: (202) 707-6100; fax: (202) 707-1334).

New Country Studies From Federal Research

The Library of Congress Federal Research Division has issued the latest five volumes in a series of country studies under an agreement with the Department of the Army. The books, *Colombia: A Country Study, Israel: A Country Study, Spain: A Country Study, Hungary: A Country Study,* and *Mongolia: A Country Study,* were edited, respectively, by Dennis M. Hanratty and Sandra W. Meditz; Helen Chapin Metz, Eric Solsten and Sandra W. Meditz; Stephen R. Burant; and Robert Worden and Andrea Matles Savada, all currently or formerly of the Federal Research Division.

The series consists of more than 100 titles and covers approximately 143 sovereign states and 15 dependencies. A typical book in the series, intended as an introduction to an individual country, contains five chapters describing and analyzing its history, society, economy, government and politics, and national security. All books in the series are hardbound and contain maps, charts, photographs, tables, chapter bibliographies, a glossary and an index.

The books in the series are used for a wide range of purposes, including training programs for government and military personnel and for college classes on comparative government and international relations. During the past several years, approximately 1 million copies of the books in the series have been sold, and more than 150,000 copies have been distributed to depository libraries throughout the United States.

A list of books in the series is available from the Country Studies Program, Federal Research Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540. To purchase the books on Colombia, Israel, Spain, Hungary or Mongolia, write to the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

Titles and stock numbers must be cited when ordering (Colombia—$18,

Publications *(Cont. from p. 153)*
stock number 008-020-01234-3; Israel–$19, stock number 008-020-01233-5; Spain–$19, stock number 008-020-01235-1; Hungary–$17, stock number 008-020-01236-0; and Mongolia–$17, stock number 008-020-01237-8). Include check or money order payable to the Superintendent of Documents.

PREMARC Activities

The PREMARC File represents the retrospective conversion of the bulk of LC's cataloging which was completed before automated records were routinely prepared at Library of Congress.

In 1979, Carrollton Press and University Microfilms issued a microfilm copy of the Library of Congress shelflist for which Carrollton announced that it would print a title index. This index was generated from MARC records and from non-MARC records which Carrollton converted to machine-readable form. The resulting body of machine-readable records was marketed by Carrollton Press under the name PREMARC.

In 1980, the Library bought copies of the PREMARC records. The non-MARC records, keyed in Scotland from hard copy blowbacks of the microform shelflist, were machine-readable, but contained little content designation. The Library received these unedited records on tape for further processing.

This processing was performed through a series of programs called Format Recognition. Through Format Recognition, unedited cataloging data could generate content-designated, MARC-formatted records. Developed at the Library, these programs were used as part of LC's MARC cataloging workflow until the advent of online input/ update in 1980. The newly formatted records were loaded into a separate file, i.e., the PREMARC File. Approximately 4,700,000 records reside on the file. A copy of the formatted records was also supplied to Carrollton Press.

Rumors that the MARC Editorial Division has run out of work can be laid to rest, for MARC Ed has more work to do than ever. Over the last two fiscal years, MARC Ed staff has made 130,000 changes to records in the PREMARC File, deleted 34,300 records, and added 6,600. Among corrections made were such notables as changing "Untied States" to "United States" and "Great Britian" to "Great Britain." Thousands of other corrections involved tagging for headings such as Hippocrates, Chaucer, Shakespeare, Napoleon, and many others which had been identified by Format Recognition as corporate bodies or topical subjects. The first week of September 1990, staff began work on the PREMARC enhancement.

Also referred to as the "OCat pass," this activity involves comparing each main entry card from the Official Catalog to the corresponding on-line PREMARC record. Errors will be corrected or the records enhanced by the expansion of the title and imprint fields and by the addition of key fields. For cards which have no on-line counterparts, records will be input. A variety of cards, stretching back to the early days of cataloging when cards were handwritten, will be encountered in this painstaking process.

The entire OCat pass from A to Z is expected to take MARC Ed staff approximately 20 years, but as the file upgrade progresses, the benefits of the work will be available immediately. For the material that it represents, the on-line file will provide a full range of access points that greatly exceeds those of a card catalog, thus making a significant difference in the availability of the Library's collections. It will serve as a resource for users and will greatly facilitate the quality and depth of research done not only in the Library of Congress but also at other institutions that will eventually have direct dial access. Finally, it will complement the other Library catalogs that together form a single integrated source for the entire wealth the Library has in its collections.

In addition to the PREMARC upgrade, MARC Editorial Division's most recent activities include:

The Priority 4 shelflist, which represents approximately 125,000 items held by the Library, is one of the shelflists that was not filmed. Consequently, these records have not been represented in this or any other on-line file. As part of the PREMARC upgrade process, MARC ED staff began inputting these records on October 22, 1990. As of February 22, 1991, 54,535 records have been keyed. Considered the precursor to minimal level cataloging, Priority 4 cataloging records can be recognized on the file by their call numbers, which begin with the number "4" rather than a letter combination. They also have record identification numbers prefixed with "ltf," which stands for "less than full" cataloging.

As Priority 4 materials are being moved to the Landover Center Annex, the availability of this information on-line will aid the General Reading Rooms reference staff in determining which materials have already been reshelved at Landover.

In midyear, the division began adding microfilm shelflist numbers to records in the file, based on the Preservation Microfilm Office shelflist. These efforts will eliminate the need for retaining hard copy in the manual Central Charge File of the Loan Division. This project involves comparing cards from the shelflist of the PMO with PREMARC records and BOOKSM records to add several fields to the records to indicate microfilm replacements for LC holdings.

Some additional fields will be added to the PREMARC records at the time the records undergo the OCat comparison. With the exception of some problem records, the project will be completed by the end of 1991. To date, 53,300 records have been updated and 2,500 new records have been added to the PREMARC File with microfilm shelf numbers.

A project MARC Ed recently completed for the Prints and Photographs Division involved annotating on-line records to include shelf location information for the division's case book collection, i.e., rate materials. Most of the 2,000 records that were updated reside on PREMARC File.

When the PREMARC enhancement is fully under way, approximately 40 staff members will be involved. In addition to work on the OCat pass, staff must input 80,000 "difficult to read" items that are not represented on the file.

Library Birthday Marked by New Book

One hundred ninety-one years ago, President John Adams signed an act that created the Library of Congress. Just in time to celebrate the Library's 191st birthday, Harry N. Abrams Inc. Publishers has released a newly revised and expanded edition of *Treasures of the Library of Congress* by Charles Goodrum.

The latest 344-page edition of this book, first published to wide acclaim in 1980, has been updated throughout. A new final chapter details significant treasures acquired by the Library since the earlier edition. From Maya Lin's original drawings for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to contemporary political posters stored on videodisc, the new edition of *Treasures of the Library of Congress* shows the Library as a continuously evolving, vital center of scholarship and ideas.

As Librarian of Congress James H. Billington writes in his foreword, the Library of Congress is "the spark plug for the emerging new electronic library without walls of the twenty-first century."

President John Adams hardly could have envisioned such a dramatic potential when the Library's first shipment of 740 books arrived from a British bookseller in 11 hair trunks. Today, the Library of Congress receives some 31,000 items a day, in almost every language and in almost every form of creative and intellectual expression known to man: not just books, but also manuscripts and movies, computer software and musical scores, photos, maps, microfilm and compact disc recordings.

Some 460 illustrations are included in *Treasures*, including 173 in full color.

Treasures of the Library of Congress is now available in bookstores and soon will be sold at the Madison Sales Shop. Price: $75.

BOOKS FROM THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN
From an Artist's Point of View
THE MASK BENEATH THE FACE
STEPPING AWAY FROM TRADITION
CHILDREN'S BOOKS OF THE TWENTIES AND THIRTIES

Children and Books

The Mask Beneath the Face, an essay by E. L. Konigsburg. (Center for the Book Viewpoint Series No. 28). Noted children's author Elaine Konigsburg speaks eloquently and personally about how children's authors touch—and shape—children's lives. 31 pp., **$3.95**

Hans Christian Andersen From an Artist's Point of View, a lecture for International Children's Book Day by Erik Blegvad. The celebrated Danish children's book author and illustrator discusses both Andersen and his own approach to illustrating the children's classics. Includes 19 illustrations from the Library's Andersen editions. 30 pp., **$8.95**

Stepping Away from Tradition: Children's Books of the Twenties and Thirties, edited by Sybille A. Jagusch. A beautifully designed and crafted collection of essays that examine a watershed period in children's literature from perspectives of the publishing industry, the book designer, the currents of society at large, and children's librarianship. Illustrated. 139 pp., **$25.00**

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